

**Letter from the  
President**

On January 22, 1990 the Highland Town Council passed Ordinance No. 946 which established a Department of Redevelopment and a Redevelopment Commission. The Redevelopment Commission is composed of five (5) members; three (3) of whom are appointed by the President of the Town Council and two (2) of whom are appointed by a majority of the five (5) Town Council members. Redevelopment Commissioners serve a one year term. The current members are: Adam Gawlikowski, President; James Kessler, Vice President; Dominic Noce, Secretary; and Brice Johnson and Richard Garza, members.

As an appointed Board of Commissioners, it is our responsibility to promote redevelopment within selected boundaries of our Town. This responsibility includes establishing redevelopment areas, encouraging businesses to make façade improvements, creating new high end business development areas, increasing our resident population, and creating a town climate that draws people to Highland. We are ultimately challenged to take actions that improve the quality of life for all Highland citizens.

Sincerely,

Adam Gawlikowski,  
Redevelopment Commission  
President

**Highland's Redevelopment Commission  
Expands Redevelopment Area**

Each year the Redevelopment Commission is allowed to expand the Redevelopment Area 20%. In 2007, the Commission expanded that area to include north Indianapolis Boulevard on the west side, a portion of north

Kennedy Avenue, a triangular



area east of Ultra and north of Garfield Avenue (if it were extended west of the current road), and LaPorte Avenue, if extended to Indianapolis

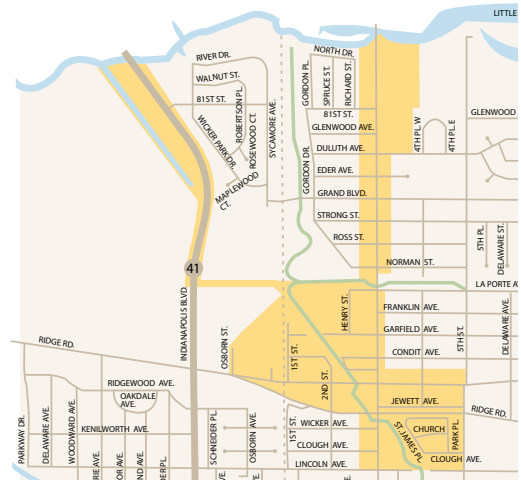


Boulevard. The existing Redevelopment Area also includes the downtown and North Kennedy Avenue. See the map to the right that outlines the current Redevelopment Area.

The advantage of including an area within a redevelopment area is to provide potential

economic development tools only available in a designated re-

**HIGHLAND REDEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**



development area. These tools can assist businesses with their renovation or construction plans in order to increase economic development in Highland.

**Redevelopment Commission's Website  
Offers Additional Information**

Do you want to read past minutes of the Redevelopment Commission or look at properties for sale or lease within Highland? Then you will want to visit our website at [www.highland.in.gov/redevelopment](http://www.highland.in.gov/redevelopment). This site offers additional information about the Commission's activities including a listing of properties for sale and lease, new businesses in town, a meeting schedule for the Commission and approved minutes of the Commission's Study Sessions and Public Meetings.

In addition, the site pro-

vides information on programs and projects that are being undertaken by the Commission. For example, the site features the Wi-Fi project in downtown Highland, photos of the winners in the 2006 Best House on the Block Contest for Highland, and a "downloadable" copy of the Comprehensive Plan for the Redevelopment Area.

If you are a business owner, check out the information about the five kiosks or ad towers in downtown Highland.

While you are at the site,

click on the links to other town departments including the police, park, building and inspection, public works, special events committee, town council, and fire departments. Other links include the municipal code, maps of the town and redevelopment area, and demographic information about Highland.

If you want additional information about Highland or a department within the town, please email the appropriate department with your question.

## Letter from the Director

Welcome!

The Highland Redevelopment Commission invites you to read our new newsletter, *Step by Step*. The purpose of this newsletter is to provide residents with information and updates on the progress of our programs, projects and goals. In addition, the Commission hopes that you will become so interested in our activities that you will attend and provide your ideas at our regularly scheduled meetings on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month in the town hall.

The name of the newsletter, *Step by Step*, reflects the careful diligence and continuing persistence needed to redevelop areas within the town of Highland. Each issue will explain the business of the Redevelopment Commission and introduce you to the members of the Commission. These five appointed members are volunteers who give a considerable amount of their time and talents to explore how best to redevelop our town.

I hope you will enjoy the newsletter and offer your opinions to the Commission. I can be reached through email at [cpetro@highland.in.gov](mailto:cpetro@highland.in.gov) or at 219-972-7598. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,  
Cecile L. Petro  
Redevelopment Director

## Redevelopment Commission Approves Comprehensive Plan

The Redevelopment Commission has been working on a Comprehensive Plan for the Redevelopment Area in order to provide a direction and vision for the future. Early in 2006 the Commission began its planning process by hosting three public meetings to discuss the direction of the Redevelopment

Area with residents, property owners, and business owners. The culmination of the planning resulted in the Comprehensive Plan in the

Spring of 2007 and is available at our website, [www.highland.in.gov/redevelopment](http://www.highland.in.gov/redevelopment). The Plan is also available at the Redevelopment



ment office for residents to view along with maps and plans for the three sub-areas within the Redevelopment Area. The next step for the

Commission is to build upon the Plan by establishing Design and Architectural Guidelines and Standards for the area. In the Spring of

2007, the Commission started that process with Wight Company and hopes to complete them by the end of the year. These Guidelines and Standards will tell potential developers and ren-

ovators what is expected of them by the town. They will also protect the investment of those who abide by the Guidelines and Standards.

## Free Wi-Fi Service Offered in Downtown Highland

Do you own a laptop computer and want to be outside during our beautiful fall weather? Come to downtown Highland and sit on a bench, visit Main Square Park or have a wonderful meal from one of our downtown restaurants while you log on to the internet. Our Wi-Fi (wireless fidelity) is free in the downtown area



and we encourage you to come downtown and enjoy our lovely streetscape.

The Wi-Fi is a pilot project

started in 2004 by the Highland Redevelopment Commission to encourage businesses to locate in Highland and to offer residents a public amenity. If you are a business owner and would like to access this service, please call us. Some may need a special connector, which will be available for a charge.

## Little Known Census Facts About Highland

--According to the 2000 Census:

- the median age for Highland was 40 years old
- 27% of those over 65 years of age in Highland lived alone
- The median family income in Highland was \$59,106
- 79% of all housing units in Highland were owner occupied
- 29% of employed Highland residents worked in Highland

### Highland Redevelopment Commission Schedules Meetings for the Remainder of 2007

November 14, 2007

Study Session at 6:30 PM  
Public Meeting at 7:00 PM  
Study Session  
follows Public Meeting

November 28, 2007

Study Session at 6:30 PM

December 12, 2007

Study Session at 6:30 PM  
Public Meeting at 7:00 PM

Study Session follows Public Meeting